

BEST BILLIARD PLAYERS IN THE WORLD TO COMPETE FOR TITLE HERE

HIGH RUN RECORD LIKELY TO FALL

Jake Schaefer, Present 18:2
Title Holder, in Fine
Condition.

GERMAN THE DARK HORSE

Erich Hagenlocher, Latest of
Cue Stars May Spring
Surprise.

Billiardists Who Are After Schaefer's Crown

By THOMAS J. GALLAGHER.

An 18:2 ballgame tournament that is expected to surpass all previous events of its kind will open to-morrow night at the Hotel Pennsylvania. Six experts are engaged to compete in it. Individually and collectively they represent the best of their profession developed in Continental Europe and the United States.

The honor of France is entrusted to Roger Conti, the youngest of all aspirants for the championship of the world; Edouard Horemans, than whom there is not a more skillful exponent of the game, will strive to take the title to Belgium; Erich Hagenlocher, from Stuttgart, Germany, a new star in the billiard firmament, will be the "dark horse," while Jacob Schaefer, present world's champion; William F. Hoppe, who for many years was a champion in a class by himself, and the dashing and brilliant Iowan, Welker Cochran, will try to retain the championship under the Stars and Stripes.

Schaefer is in fine condition and confident of retaining his title.

The games will be 500 points and, while every entrant is possibly equal to completing that quota in one inning, none is likely to do so. Nor is it likely that the averages made at the Chicago tournament a year ago will be equaled. The games at Chicago were 400 points. An additional 100 will reduce the chance of great averages. At the same time it will provide more room for big runs and a new record in that line is probable.

The opening event will be between Jacob Schaefer and Erich Hagenlocher. It will be preceded by an address by A. J. Castell at Philadelphia. Nevertheless, the game is scheduled to begin at 8:15.

Tuesday afternoon Roger Conti and Welker Cochran will compete. Wednesday night William F. Hoppe and Edouard Horemans will occupy the table.

Following are sketches of the entrants:

Hoppe a Juvenile Wizard.

William F. Hoppe is the oldest of the entrants. He was born at Cornwall on the Hudson, adjoining West Point, October 11, 1887, and has, therefore, passed the first month of his thirty-sixth year. Before seven years old he began using a cue, playing pocket billiards on a table in his father's home at Cornwall. Shortly afterward he moved to New York City, where he and his brother Frank, two years older, gave exhibitions of their skill at pocket billiards. During one of the visits of the juvenile cue wielders to New York City, Jacob Schaefer, father of the present champion, persuaded the head of the Hoppe family to let Willie apply himself to carom billiards.

Early in 1899, although permitted to climb on the table when otherwise unable to make strokes from the floor, Willie was a sensation in local billiard circles. He displayed surprising skill at straight rail, cushion caroms and even three cushions. That fall his father took him West on an exhibition tour. From that time to the present he has been a national and international figure in billiards.

In 1904 in Paris he won the championship of the young masters at 18:2 ballgame. Among the contestants were Orlando Morrison, Al Taylor and Joseph Capron. Two years later, at the Grand Hotel, Paris, he became a champion of the world, acquiring that distinction by defeating the 18:1 ballgame title from Maurice Vignaux. The score was 300 to 323.

Bringing the championship emblem to New York, he defended it against George F. Slosson at Grand Central Palace before the largest gathering that ever witnessed a billiard match.

The same year—1906—at Madison Square Garden, he finished fourth to Slosson, Sutton and Schaefer in the first 18:2 ballgame tournament for championship honors ever held in the United States. On January 3, 1907, he resigned the 18:1 championship. March 27, 1908, at Madison Square Garden, he won the 18:2 championship from Sutton. A week later he returned the trophy to the loser and won a second time resigned the championship.

In 1910 he recovered both the 18:1 and 18:2 championships. At Orchestra Hall, Chicago, he took the 18:1 emblem from Sutton and Schaefer. At the Theater Concert Hall he obtained the 18:2 title by defeating Harry P. Cline. Thereafter he won 18:2 tournament and matches until a year ago, when he was defeated by Schaefer.

Horemans a Specialist.

Edouard Horemans is 33. He was born in Antwerp, Belgium. As an exhibition player he is probably the best in the world. He specializes on draw, massé and nursing. What he can do at this style of play at 18:2 ballgame is emphasized by what he has done. At Thum's room, this city, in 1921, he ran 701. At the Rational Restaurant last spring he ran 434. A month ago at Boston he compiled a run of 780.

That portion of the American public that loves billiards owes him a debt of gratitude. When he arrived here November 12, 1920, the professional department of the game was in a lethargic condition. One player, Hoppe, dominated it absolutely. Horemans's presence revived interest, stimulated the profession and brought about a new era. The present champion was born at Chicago, October 15, 1894. It was only natural that he took a keen interest in the game in which his father was so brilliant an exponent. But it was not until the death of his father that he began to concentrate on the game. His progress was slow yet steady. At the age of 20 he played in his first tournament, the 14th affair, held at the Hotel Astor, April 20 to 24, 1914. He finished last, beaten by Hoppe, Sutton, Capron, Morris, Morringstar, Yamada and Cline. His only victim was Slosson.

After practicing at Chicago and

making satisfactory progress he went to San Francisco, where got an engagement in Grane's Academy and had an opportunity to play three cushion caroms, red ball and balkline until tired. Improving rapidly he soon became a masterful expert at all carom games. In February, 1920, he matched himself against Horemans, over whom he triumphed in a record breaking, sensational contest of 4,900 points, played at Maurice Daly's, in sessions of 400 points. Horemans's expressed view of what happened was: "I beat Schaefer five days; he beats me one and wins the watch." When the final day's play began, Horemans had a lead of 234.

When the afternoon session ended Schaefer led by 37 points. He has scored in five innings a total of 634, including a run of 430, the highest ever made in a record breaking, sensational contest of 4,900 points, played at Maurice Daly's, in sessions of 400 points. Horemans's expressed view of what happened was: "I beat Schaefer five days; he beats me one and wins the watch." When the final day's play began, Horemans had a lead of 234.

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A. E. Ranney Shoots Well at Travers Island Traps

High Scratch Gun and Wins Monthly Cup With Full Score

A. E. Ranney did some excellent shooting at the Travers Island traps of the New York Athletic Club yesterday. Not only was he the high scratch gunner with a card of 97 out of a possible 100 targets, but he also won the Monthly cup with a full score of fifty targets. To round out the day's work he scored a leg on the doubles cup along with A. L. Burns.

There was a field of forty-five gunners on the firing line. Forty tied for the high handicap prize with full scores of 100 targets. They were J. D. Nichols, G. M. Hersey, A. D. Tuttle and J. H. Wantling. The last named gunner finally took the cup, only after three strings of twenty-five targets had been trapped. It was one of the longest shoots ever seen at Travers Island in some time.

O. D. Tuttle was the winner of the Travers Island cup. In the Haslin cup nine gunners won with full scores of fifty blue rocks each. They were G. M. Hersey, C. A. Brown, J. D. Nichols, C. L. King, J. H. Wantling, G. P. Hutchings, E. Milliken, A. N. Ranney, C. C. Moore and O. D. Tuttle.

The New York Athletic Club will start its annual winter Sunday shooting today. A program of 100 targets, with special cups for each leg, will be fired. The winners:

On Metropolitan Links

PLAINFIELD.—Dr. H. V. Hubbard won the turkey sweepstakes and was also first in the ball sweepstakes, with a score of 94. 24. Stephen E. Voorhees and A. L. Schomp finished second and third, with net scores of 79 and 80.

CENTURY.—Final for club championship.—F. S. Bach defeated A. L. Bernheim, 5 up and 4 to play.

GLEN RIDGE.—Medal play for club cup.—Won by John J. Kelly, 98—30.

ROSELAND.—Best ball event.—The scores: G. B. Martin and C. M. Lindsay, 75—12; E. S. Chenoweth and A. F. Dutcher, 86—15; J. R. C. Dunham and C. P. Leach, 84—12; G. P. Albert and H. Rummel, 87—15; H. F. Palmer and F. G. Elder, 88—14; H. F. Lincoln and F. G. Thomas, 93—15; G. R. Cable and J. Troy, 94—16; H. M. Blank and J. V. Hoiter, 96—17; G. W. Reynolds and W. E. Powers, 96—15, 81.

ESSSEX FIELDS.—Gold ball sweepstakes.—Class A.—G. B. Gallien, 99—17; J. C. Bowman, 97—20; J. R. M. Klotz, 96—19; J. N. S. Brewster, 95—20; J. C. Hughes, 94—20; W. A. Morton, 103—24, 79.

FOREST HILL.—Class A handicap: Harry O. Christ, 80—7; R. C. Wald, 82—12; W. A. Schreiber, 87—13; J. C. Cummings, 87—14; J. L. Kay, 86—11; Class B handicap: Harvey Skehan, 88—17; A. C. Nage, 87—21; C. O. Greason, 88—17; J. H. Baldwin, 91—18; J. H. Short, 96—23; Wilson J. Vance, 96—21, 75.

SUBURBAN.—Eighteen hole flag contest: J. C. Burke, reached twentieth hole; Dr. William Bozian and Joseph Nolte